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Macalester Today November 1990

Macalester College

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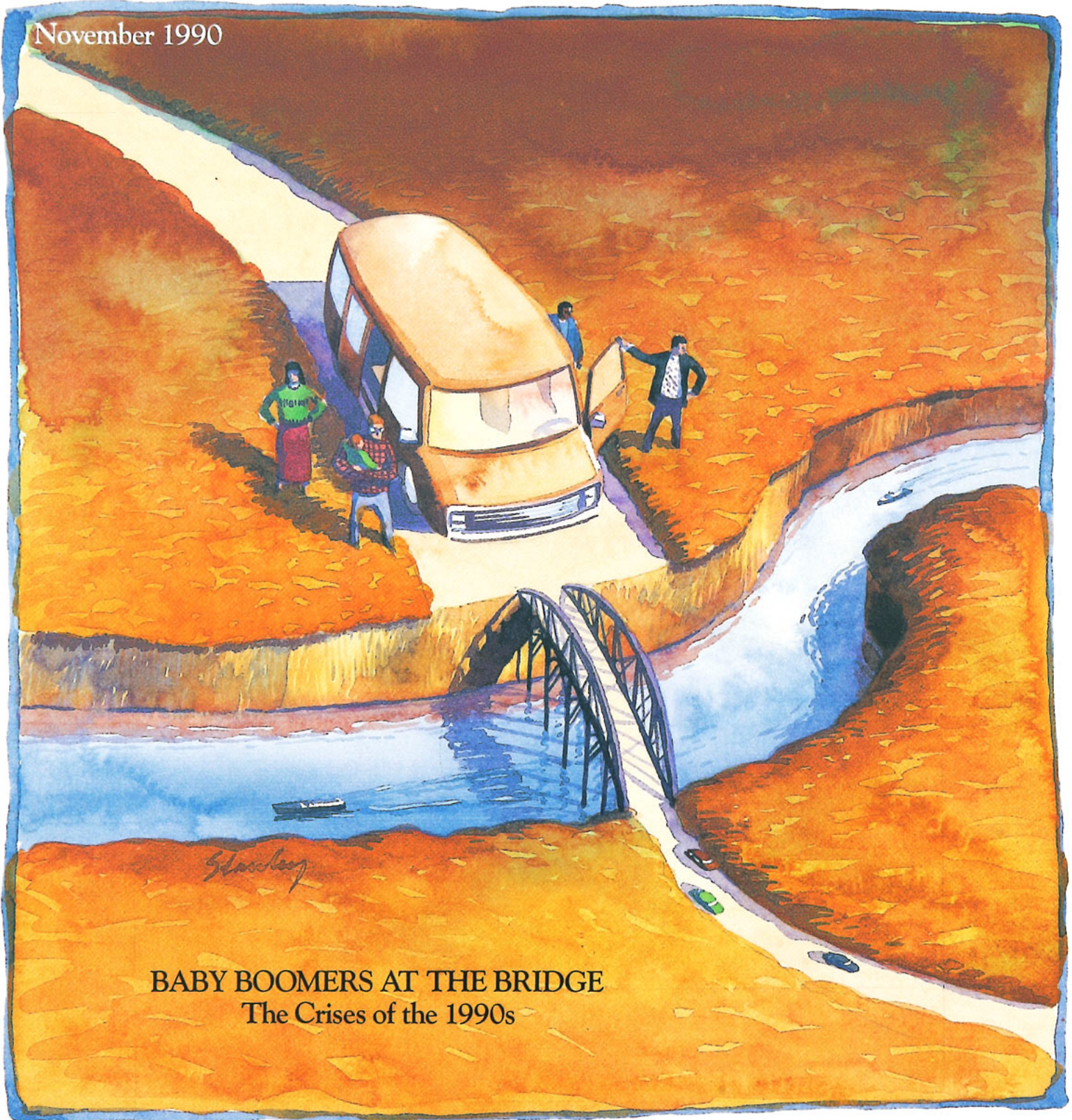
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MACALESTER TODAY

November 1990



BABY BOOMERS AT THE BRIDGE
The Crises of the 1990s

LETTERS

We welcome readers' opinions of recent articles. Please send letters intended for publication to Letters to the Editor, Macalester Today, Public Relations and Publications Department, Macalester College, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899. We reserve the right to edit letters for conciseness and clarity.

A global perspective

I was delighted to receive your August issue highlighting the English department's efforts to implement a shared, world cultural perspective in its curriculum. They parallel many of our multicultural initiatives in the English department at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and I am going to put this issue on reserve for my world literature students here. It makes me very proud to be a Macalester alumna.

I would like to give credit, too, to Professor of French Hélène Peters, who, way back in 1966, encouraged me to do my honors thesis on West African writing in French. A global perspective is nothing new to her.

Susan Gardner '67
Department of English
University of North Carolina
at Charlotte

A cultural plunge

I am a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in Thailand teaching English in a village medical school. Since coming to Thailand, I received the *Macalester Today* issue featuring religious diversities and understanding [February 1990].

I never cease to be proud of Macalester! Here, I am immersed—a cultural plunge into a Theravada Buddhist culture. I feel even 45 years ago, Macalester readied us to be curious/interested in worlds beyond our world and to be sensitive to other religious experiences and expressions beyond ours.

Jane Crichton Leiper '44
Thailand

The abortion debate and that photograph

Whether or not to abort is one of the hottest issues on the scene today. Few topics can raise people's hackles with such effectiveness. And the furor over *Mac Today's* photograph [in the May 1989 issue] of Macalester students at a pro-choice rally in Washington, D.C., has moved me to put fingers to keyboard.

While I will not pretend to know whose side God is on, or to tell people how they should decide their own conscience on the subject, I do know that this country was founded on the freedom of each person to speak his/her mind and to enter into debate on any subject that arises. It is a basic right to be treasured (no matter

how convoluted it may have become with the passage of time). I commend *Mac Today* for not only publishing the original photo but also for continuing to publish letters on both sides of the ensuing argument. It seems to me that censorship, based on the biases of *any* group, is antithetical to the foundation of a liberal-arts institution.

One more thing: my feeling is that the focus of the abortion issue has always been a misguided one. If we spent as much time, energy, money and *passion* taking care of the people who are already here on this planet *now* as we spend on the pro-life or pro-choice argument, abortion would not even be an issue, because every child born would be a wanted child, with someone to love and take care of him or her. Perhaps the time is coming

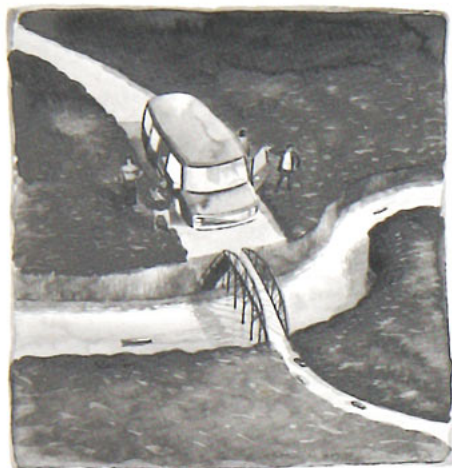
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Three Macalester cheerleaders lined up for this photo in 1938. They are Lewis J. Kravetz '40, left, Harriet Pankhurst Nunn '39 and Allan F. Livers '40.

MACALESTER ARCHIVES

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Stan Olson's cover painting illustrates what Paul Light '75 calls the "solvable crises" of the 1990s for the baby boomers. Turn to page 8.

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Changes in endowment make Macalester one of best-endowed colleges

Macalester observed a milestone in its history this fall. On Oct. 12 Macalester's board of trustees formally approved an audit report that lists the college's endowment at \$320 million. The new figure makes Macalester the best-endowed college in Minnesota and one of the best-endowed liberal-arts colleges in the nation.

According to the audit report, Macalester's endowment has more than quadrupled during the past year, jumping from \$65 million in May 1989 to \$320 million on May 31, 1990 (the end of the fiscal year). The increase is due to developments involving a charitable organization established during the 1980s to benefit the college. That organization, the DeWitt Wallace Fund for Macalester College, was created by *Reader's Digest* founder DeWitt Wallace through a series of gifts eventually totaling about 10 million shares of *Reader's Digest* Association stock.

During the past several months, Macalester has seen the impact of three important developments:

- In February, *Reader's Digest* stock was sold to the public for the first time. This established a market value for the stock—a value much higher than previously estimated. The stock also rose in value after the initial sale.

- About one-fourth of the stock held by the fund for Macalester was sold during the public offering. Proceeds from the sale were invested in Macalester's own diversified endowment portfolio, where they will be subjected to a higher spending rule (5 to 6 percent annually) compared to their previous yield (2 percent annually).

- College auditors have agreed to include the assets of the DeWitt Wallace Fund for Macalester in the college's reported endowment for the first time. On May 31, the fund's assets represented about \$250 million of the reported \$320 million.

Income from DeWitt Wallace's original series of gifts has long been used to provide financial aid to about 500 students annually, to help support faculty develop-

ment and salaries, and to sponsor a distinguished visitors program.

Macalester President Robert M. Gavin, Jr., said that further diversification of the DeWitt Wallace Fund for Macalester will eventually mean an increase of up to \$10 million in annual income. The college's 1990-91 operating budget is \$35 million. Gavin has challenged the campus community to bring forth forward-thinking and ambitious recommendations on how to use the additional income. This fall, the college initiated a year of academic planning, led by Provost Elizabeth Ivey, to give students, faculty and staff an opportunity to meet and develop specific recommendations. The Alumni Association board of directors will play a role in the process beginning next spring.

Expected to be considered during the planning process, Gavin said, is his recommendation to add up to 30 new faculty positions, which would bring Macalester's student-to-faculty ratio from 12-to-1 down to 10-to-1. The proposed new faculty positions would enable the college to enhance academic quality by diversifying the faculty and curriculum. The college will also consider new programs and facil-

ities, which would enable it to become even more of a leader in academic quality, internationalism, diversity and service, he said.

"Few institutions in their history are presented with an opportunity like this," Gavin said. "We have the chance to actually turn our vision into reality and shape Macalester for decades to come."

Substantial as the college's current resources are, Gavin said the college will need the continued support of alumni, foundations and other supporters if it is to meet its aspirations. Macalester's tuition and fees are several thousand dollars lower than other historically well-endowed liberal-arts colleges, Gavin noted. In addition, he said, the college provides substantially more financial aid to its students compared to other well-endowed liberal-arts colleges (about 70 percent of Macalester students receive financial aid compared to 35-50 percent at comparable colleges). For these reasons, Macalester must continue to receive annual support of \$6 million or more from alumni, foundations and others if it is to have new opportunities, Gavin said.

—G.M.



President Robert M. Gavin, Jr., speaks to alumni about the endowment during Leadership Weekend in September.

GREG HELGESON

Macalester students write end to the Cold War

This fall, the 35 member-nations of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) are convening in Paris for a special negotiating session. The content of that meeting should come as little surprise to the 32 Macalester students who last spring took political science Professor Janie Leatherman's senior seminar, "Negotiating an End to the Cold War."

The class was a simulation based on the multilateral negotiations of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Each student represented one (and in some cases two) of the participating countries. They spent the first half of the semester studying the history of the CSCE, the dynamics of East-West relations following World War II, negotiation literature and their nation's orientation to the conference. Each student then represented the position of her/his nation's chief negotiator to a proposed "CSCE II."

The conference upon which the class was based began in Helsinki, Finland, in 1972. Its initial negotiating session concluded in 1975 with the 35 heads of state signing the Helsinki Final Act. The CSCE, or "Helsinki process," was an attempt to enhance European security through increasing cooperation. It involved every European state, the United States and Canada. Only Albania refused to participate, although even that nation last May expressed an interest in joining.

It is, moreover, an ongoing process. Already there have been three rigorous follow-up meetings and numerous conferences focusing on specific issues. The CSCE discusses a large array of issues within a "basket" structure. The first basket concerns principles to guide the interactions of nations and other questions relating to security; the second contains issues for cooperation in the fields of economics, science and technology, and the environment, and the third basket covers human contacts, culture and educational exchanges.

With such diverse nations and issues, the CSCE makes an intriguing study by itself. But simulating its decision-making structure adds an extra dimension to the classroom setting. The students

immersed themselves in their national roles and therefore had a stake in the outcome of the process. Instead of simply absorbing what others had done at the CSCE, they came away with their own impressions of the "Helsinki process."

Professor Leatherman, who completed her Ph.D. dissertation on the Finnish and Swedish negotiating strategies in the CSCE, believed the CSCE and multilateral negotiations would become increasingly important as the changes in Eastern Europe accelerated. She also thought that negotiation can best be taught by doing it, not simply reading about it. Her expectations were more than met as the class progressed, for in the real world several European leaders—including Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher—were calling upon the CSCE to pave the way for a new era in European relations.

With the CSCE generating such news, the students had to pay attention to the smallest details of their nations' foreign policy positions. Using information coming directly from their countries' embassies, transcripts of previous conferences and the news media, the students addressed what they believed would be the issues in each "basket" of a second CSCE. The course's 24-page concluding document, *The Green Book*, proposed an agenda to guide such negotiations.

Each phrase in the document represented the results of painstaking negotiations among the competing national interests. Apparently the students, who met in full plenary sessions, smaller working groups and outside of class, did an excellent job of anticipating the relevant issues. Since the course ended, several proposals that parallel what the class came up with have been reported to be possibilities for this fall's meeting or a review conference in 1992. For example, when Gorbachev was in Washington last June, the United States proposed the creation of a permanent secretariat for the CSCE. The class also proposed forming a "European treaty organization" to integrate current security structures—an idea that European leaders are currently considering as an alternative to the nearly defunct Warsaw Pact and a NATO without direction.

The class held a concluding ceremonial dinner. Among the guests were Michal

Horacek, a Czechoslovakian journalist who served as an adviser to President Vaclav Havel; Jaakko Laajava, the minister-counselor of the Finnish embassy in Washington, D.C., who has long been involved with the CSCE, and Macalester President Robert M. Gavin, Jr.

All of them told Leatherman that *The Green Book* was a commendable document. Horacek said it would be presented to President Havel. It also has been sent to leading foreign-policy institutes in the U.S. and Europe as well as the embassies of the CSCE countries.

Because of the nature of the course and the time it was offered, students had a rare opportunity to study international relations. The Cold War has been declared over. These students can say that they, too, helped negotiate its end.

—Daniel Lautenbach '90

Eastern bloc students enroll at Macalester

Eight students from former Communist bloc countries, including two from the Soviet Union, enrolled at Macalester in September. The number is believed to be the highest of any undergraduate liberal-arts college in the country.

The students include two each from the Soviet Union, Hungary and Poland, one from Bulgaria and one from Yugoslavia. In addition, a ninth student is a citizen of Sweden who has a parent from Bulgaria and still has strong family ties to Bulgaria.

Six are first-year students and three are transfer students. All are seeking degrees from Macalester.

"They are all extremely good students. And they all have the ability to articulate a cultural perspective that will be appreciated on this campus," said Jimm Crowder, director of international and transfer admissions at Macalester.

The students will be featured in the next issue of *Macalester Today*. —J.H.

A Czech journalist makes the case for politics as 'The Art of the Impossible'

Last May, Macalester Today published an article about Czechoslovakia's peaceful revolution by Radek John, a Czech journalist and 1989 alumnus of the Macalester-based World Press Institute. WPI, founded in 1961, seeks to improve international reporting of the United States by bringing 10 experienced foreign journalists to the U.S. each year and giving them an open view of the country. The Macalester faculty provides them with background information in the areas of government, business, science and technology, mass communications, social issues and culture. Then the journalists leave the campus for five months to work and travel in all parts of the U.S. and to meet Americans in all walks of life.

Last May 9, another Czech journalist, Michal Horacek, spoke at Macalester's Weyerhaeuser Chapel. Horacek, a 1984 alumnus of WPI, was a participant in the revolution and served as an adviser to President Vaclav Havel. Here are excerpts from his address, which he entitled "Politics as the Art of the Impossible":

A distinguished gentleman went to sell his silverware. Every single spoon, fork and knife carried an engraved ornament and family symbols. There were 96 pieces altogether. But antique shops would not buy the set.

The year was 1961 and there were far too many silverware sets for sale then in Czechoslovakia. No one seemed to care for them any more. This is how things like that came to be termed: "bourgeois anachronism."

So the distinguished gentleman took his 96 pieces of bourgeois anachronism to a scale in a factory, where it was weighed. Then it would be melted. That was considered a most proper end to any anachronism, giving way to things "progressive," such as communication lines, refrigerators and sophisticated weaponry.

The distinguished gentleman happened to be my grandfather. This is why I know he was not at all happy with what he had done. My grandfather, however, had to sell that family silverware. He and my grandmother were hungry and cold and

too proud to mention it when my parents were around. With what he got from the factory, my grandfather could buy bread, butter, coffee, some coal and a shawl for my granny. But his heart was broken, for the silverware had been in the family for 200 years and now it was irretrievably lost and he said he did not quite know why it had to happen.

Yet in his heart of hearts he knew exactly why: because he himself was a bourgeois anachronism. He had to be retired from his position at the Academy of Sciences, as he persistently addressed



Michal Horacek at Macalester: "Your money was well spent."

people as "sir" instead of "comrade." He also preferred outdated shirts to fashionable worker overalls, he spoke Latin and Greek and German and French, and sometimes fell into a trance and then he spoke about fantasies like democracy, ethics and morals.

This is what—together with silver spoons, democracy, ethics and morals—was also regarded as bourgeois anachronisms: horseback riding, psychology, green color, detective stories, chewing gum, the waltz, tuxedos, Jesus Christ, Clark Gable, tap dancing, Donald Duck, any kind of limousine except for black ZIL, four-pointed stars, six-pointed stars, laughing aloud, weeping at all, and most

of all, Coca-Cola.

I distinctly remember one terrible moment back in 1966 when I turned 13 and suddenly realized that nothing I liked on this planet was missing on the list of bourgeois anachronisms.

By 1967 my grandfather was very skinny, and widowed, too. But he did not give up his fantasies. "Veritas vincit," he used to say. It was Latin for "The truth prevails." But my grandfather died and the truth did not win. That was in 1976. He was one of the very last people I then knew who never gave up hope. I reckon hope is so burdensome to keep and to really live with, one is prone to abandon it and to get so-called smart instead. Or so-called realistic. Optimism is a form of courage, and courage tends to be a heavy suitcase to travel with.

Then, in the evening of Nov. 17, 1989, naive, unrealistic visionaries took to the streets of Prague. They were not terribly many—some 5,000 in all. Few of them were older than 19. They got themselves brutally beaten by specialists in brutal beatings.

Two days later, in a small Prague theater, other people gathered, few of them younger than 30. They were journalists, musicians, writers and painters, headed by the playwright Vaclav Havel. I heard Havel proclaim: Today, we, the citizens of Prague, form a Civic Forum. We suggest such forums be formed throughout the land as the vehicle of civic self-defense against the totalitarian regime. Nine days from now the country will stage a general strike.

Well, how incredibly naive! How could this idea even spread across the country, with all the media in the enemy's hands? How could the citizens be persuaded to form civic forums, when secret police agents were so ubiquitous? But somehow they did. They emerged out of the shadows of their own fear and their realism into the sunlight of hope and courage and naivete. And they toppled the fiercest totalitarian regime in Central Europe within less than two weeks. It does sound impossible, but that's how veritas vincit. I gather the triumph of truth is the only meaningful victory there is, and all the rest is just a trick.

I certainly do not try to patronizingly suggest that people of Czechoslovakia know better than the Americans do. My own experience, indeed, also incorpo-

rates many very naive, lovably unrealistic U.S. citizens, such as Paul Sherburne and other men and women at the World Press Institute and Macalester College.

One afternoon six years ago, I asked Sherburne, who was then the WPI's director: "I've come from a Communist country, go back to a Communist country, will write about America under Communist censorship. Why are you all out to spend so much money on my learning about your country when you have no guarantee whatsoever I won't repay that in just more cleverly written slander?"

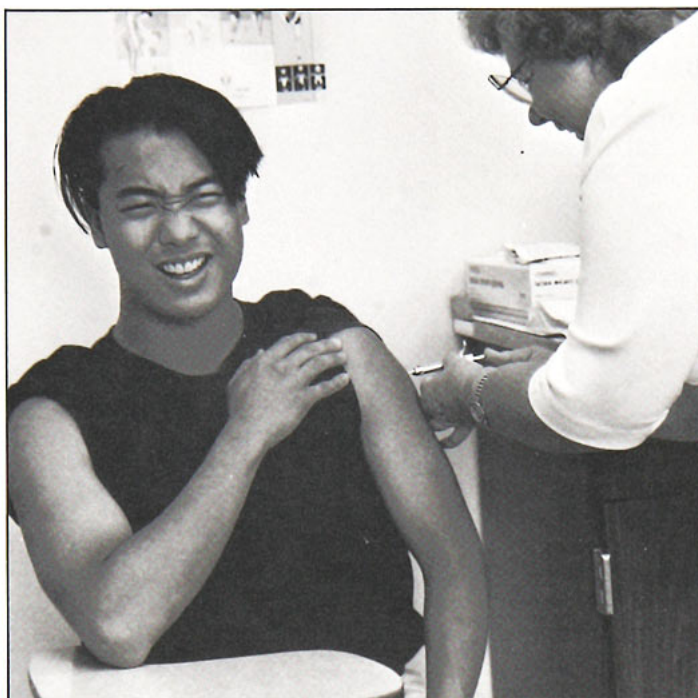
And Paul said, "It's our business to show you around, show you good things and bad things, be honest with you. Whatever you do with that knowledge is up to you. Actually, we do not care."

That was a devastating answer. A country with many aircraft carriers is obviously a mighty one. But not devastatingly so. A country that shows you everything, even its shadiest corners, and does not see to it you do not use your knowledge against her, does not really care, must be the strongest country in the world. Indeed, invincible. Because of her peerless self-esteem, because of the true wish to hope for the best, which is indomitable.

Six years ago, the WPI people might have sounded naive. Today, however, the truly naive spendthrifts have proven to be the people who keep aircraft carriers afloat at a daily cost that exceeds that on which the World Press Institute can survive for a decade. What the weapons could never penetrate, a hope for the best could, and did. It occurred to me at one moment that perhaps WPI and Macalester College also contributed to the success of the unprecedented Czechoslovak Revolution, and I said so to Havel. He agreed. Let me say this: Your money was well spent.

I do not think I should talk too much longer. All I wanted to say was actually just this: horseback riding, psychology, green color, the waltz and many other things do not sound like anachronisms to me. But at least one thing does, very much: politics as the art of the possible. Indeed, life as the art of the possible. Should not we consider the only truly progressive art—the art of the impossible—whenever we cast a vote or even pursue a political career, wherever we happen to live?

JIM HANSEN



Shot in the arm

Jong Bum Kwon '93 grimaces as he receives an immunization shot from a Health Services nurse in September. All students were required to be immunized before they could be validated for classes.

Debate over research focuses on Macalester

What role should research play at liberal-arts colleges like Macalester? That was the central question of a major article in the July 5 issue of the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, the nation's leading journal for college faculty and administrators, and Macalester was at the center of the debate.

The article by *Chronicle* reporter Scott Heller mentioned Grinnell, Wellesley, Cornell, St. Olaf, and other colleges but focused on Macalester, quoting President Robert M. Gavin, Jr., and Provost Elizabeth Ivey as well as six faculty members. The article said that faculty members at liberal-arts colleges best known for their teaching are stepping up their research agendas as well. "Some professors and national observers worry that the change may threaten the culture of liberal-arts colleges, the sector of higher education celebrated for good teaching and close student-faculty ties. They fear a new hybrid: the small research college," the *Chronicle* said.

Gavin, who in his 1984 inauguration speech spoke of the importance of a professionally active faculty, said Macalester is striking a balance between teaching and research. "I think what we all should be engaged in is scholarship," he told the

Chronicle. "The balance at research universities is way out of whack. Nobody cares about teaching at those places. Everything is your productivity."

Janet R. Serie, associate professor of biology, said she believes that undergraduates do and should come first at Macalester. But she said pressures to teach and conduct research have become overwhelming for some younger professors. "You cut out all the contemplative stuff," she told the *Chronicle*. "You find yourself teaching hysterically and doing research hysterically."

"What I'm worried about," said Walter Mink, a psychology professor, "is younger faculty spending the first six years here tending to their careers, whereas I think that part of their responsibility is tending to the joys and charms of teaching."

A. Truman Schwartz, a professor of chemistry, said, "It's quite possible to take an excellent teaching college and turn it into a mediocre research institution."

Ivey told the *Chronicle* that research interests will be important as Macalester recruits, tenures and promotes a new generation of faculty members. But she said Macalester will be far more flexible than a research university. For one thing, writing textbooks that help large groups of undergraduates should count for tenure and promotion, she said.

Hall of Fame adds five

Five new members were inducted into the Macalester Athletic Hall of Fame on Oct. 12 during Homecoming Weekend. They are:

- The late James H. Berquist '58. He was an excellent football player at Macalester, earning All-MIAC honors three times. He led the 1957 team, one of Mac's best, to a second-place record of 6-1-1 and was named the conference's Most Valuable Player. He was also an outstanding basketball and baseball player for the Scots.
- Richard L. Butler '40. He earned 10 varsity letters—four in baseball and three each in football and basketball. A three-year starter who played halfback or fullback on offense, linebacker on defense, returned kicks, punted and place-kicked, he was an All-MIAC halfback in 1939. He also played basketball and baseball and ran track.
- Robert Engwer '51. One of the best football players in Mac's history, he received All-MIAC honors four times in the backfield. He was the Most Valuable Player on Mac's league championship team in 1947 and was the team MVP again in 1950 when he led the Scots to a 5-3-1 record.
- The late Carl W. Larson '51. He never lost a wrestling match to an MIAC opponent during his three years as one of Mac's best wrestlers ever, winning conference titles at 175 pounds in 1948, '49 and '50. He was also an outstanding linebacker in football. He died tragically from shotgun wounds suffered in an accident during the summer before his senior year.
- William H. Morris '33. Although he was one of the backfield stars in football for three years, it was track and field where he stood out. Mac won three MIAC track titles in his four years and he was the team's high point scorer in most meets. He broke the Mac pole vault record as a freshman and also excelled in the shot put, discus, long jump and high jump.



GREG HELGESON

A pointed exchange

Two fencers square off in front of spectators in the Macalester Field House last July during the U.S. Olympic Festival. The festival attracted 3,000 athletes in 37 sports who competed at sites throughout the Twin Cities area. Macalester hosted fencing and badminton events and also housed more than 1,000 athletes in its residence halls.

Hold that line! Hold that thief!

Six members of the Macalester football team made a great tackle and nationwide news—two weeks before the season began. They captured two men suspected of tapping a hardware store safe in the Sibley Plaza Shopping Center in St. Paul.

The suspects were walking away from the hardware store about 1 p.m. Aug. 27 while the Macalester players were leaving a nearby Godfather's Pizza where they had eaten after morning practice, the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* reported in a front-page story the next day. The players were alerted by the pizza parlor manager that the hardware store had been robbed. They went outside with the manager, who confronted the two suspects from the hardware store and demanded they stop.

But the suspects "tried to run through us," said freshman Dan Kleiner of Pound Ridge, N.Y. Richard Rhodes, a sophomore defensive end from Medford, Minn., tripped one of the men, sending him tumbling into a brick pillar. Both suspects fled but the pursuing players spotted and caught up with them a short time later. "Then the one I tripped, I yelled at him, 'Get down!' And he laid down and I put his hands behind his back," Rhodes said. The players later caught the other man, too. Police discovered a wad of bills in one of the suspect's pockets.

The other Mac players involved in the pursuit were Shannon Whitworth, a junior from Ann Arbor, Mich.; Scott Sheehy, a senior from Plymouth, Minn.; Erik Johnson, a freshman from Chatfield, Minn.; and A.J. Dumoulin, a freshman from Mound, Minn.

The story was picked up by AP and UPI and sent to newspapers across the country.

ALUMNI & FACULTY BOOKS

by Mary Lou Burket

Alvin Greenberg's sonnets: poetic justice for animals

Why We Live with Animals
Poems by Alvin Greenberg
Minneapolis: Coffee House Press, 1990.
96 pp., \$8.95 paper

Forget, on the one hand, that poetry must be obscure to be admired—and on the other, that animals belong to the poetic heap of greeting cards and squeaky verse. Here are admirable poems that aren't obscure. Here are witty, sensuous, searching poems about our pets and animals, "every unlikely, unloved, indelicate beast that intrigues or eludes us."

There's enough unity of form and content in *Why We Live with Animals* to steady the reader, but not so much that the poems become predictable. Some 60 sonnets (14 lines each, with flexible meter and rhyme) attach animals to a variety of themes. There is gratitude from the speaker, who declares that "if animals didn't exist, we'd have to invent them." And there is frank reporting of the excrement of animals, of mutual dependence, and pleasure at knowing that "what a dog is, is all that it can be."

The companionable tone of the poems is set by this candid speaker, who addresses us as "pal" and "friends," acknowledging our presence. Yet we cannot ignore that this voice praises animals because they are not people—in short, not us—nor "those colleagues, lovers, friends, foes, standing on the front lawn, wanting in." Animals, we read in the title sonnet, are "something to part that mob."

Many of these poems have an enclosed, domestic atmosphere in which pets offer comfort from the world yet remind the speaker of random, elusive fulfillments—"the nothing that keeps the cat on the neighbor's roof all night." Animals also serve as metaphors for dreams, alienation, rectitude. Free of moral weight and varied in character, animals convey whatever thought or feeling is assigned to them. In Greenberg's hands, they prove to be accommodating messengers, versatile, expressive and well worth our acquaintance.

Greenberg, who chairs Macalester's English department, won the 1988 Pablo Neruda Prize in poetry. He lives in St. Paul with his dog, Daisy, and cat, Nora.



Alvin Greenberg and Daisy

Family Portraits: Remembrances by Twenty Distinguished Writers. Edited by Carolyn Anthony. Doubleday, 1989. 328 pp., \$18.95 cloth.

Susan Allen Toth, professor of English at Macalester, has written autobiographical books and essays impressive, in part, for their breadth of remembered detail. Thus it is doubly poignant to read here of someone she barely knows—her father.

"Missing: A Man with a Briefcase" gathers traces of a man who died of a brain tumor at 39, when his daughter was 7. His tennis racket, snapshots, a fragmentary home movie—there was never much to go on. And the daughter, when she reached 39 herself, needed more because living past that age "seemed odd, almost unthinkable." She sought out friends and relatives who had known him but found their fond reminiscences too vague.

There was one key piece of evidence, however—a 78-rpm recording of her father's college barbershop quartet performing "Ol' Man River." It contained a brief solo by Susan's father, which she and her sister played many times, lis-

tening "as hard as we could. That was our father's voice, rich and resonant, and above all, alive."

Among the prominent contributors to *Family Portraits* are Margaret Atwood, Alfred Kazin, Gloria Steinem, Joyce Carol Oates and Isaac Bashevis Singer. In this splendid group, Toth holds her own, writing as vibrantly, sincerely and at times self-effacingly as ever, with a darting wit that distinguishes her. It seems she is still listening as hard as she can.

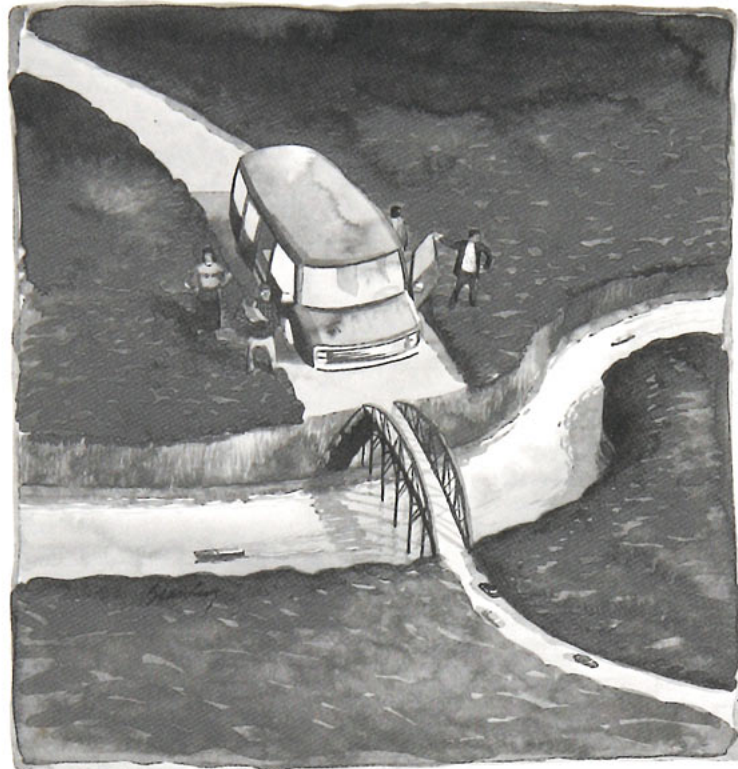
Tim O'Brien '68, "The Things They Carried," and Charles Baxter '69, "Gryphon," in *The Best American Short Stories of the Eighties*, edited by Shannon Ravenel. Houghton Mifflin, 1990. 393 pp., \$19.95 cloth.

O'Brien's story catalogs the tangible and intangible burdens of a platoon of soldiers on patrol in Vietnam: "They carried the sky. The whole atmosphere, they carried it, the humidity, the monsoons, the stink of fungus and decay, all of it, they carried gravity." Baxter's "Gryphon" tracks the reactions of a fourth-grade class to the dubious instructions of a substitute teacher. While she is in the classroom, six times eleven is sixty-eight. But when the regular teacher returns, she warns, "six times eleven will be sixty-six again, you can rest assured. And it will be that for the rest of your lives."

Fredrick D. Huebner '78: *Picture Postcard*. Ballantine, 1990. 280 pp., \$16.95 cloth.

This is the fourth mystery novel featuring Matt Riordan, a sleuth who happens to be a Seattle lawyer, like his creator. Huebner's previous book, *Judgment by Fire*, was nominated for an Edgar, a major award from the Mystery Writers of America. In this novel, Riordan searches for the connection between a hand-painted postcard and the murder of a beautiful young woman 50 years before.

Mary Lou Burket '78 is a Minneapolis free-lance writer whose book reviews have appeared in these pages and in such publications as the New York Times Book Review and Christian Science Monitor.



The Baby Boomers Enter Their Golden Days— and Days of Crisis

by Paul C. Light

The 1990s could be both the best of times and the worst of times for the 75 million Americans born between 1946 and 1964. It depends on whether the baby boomers are willing to let go of the Me Decade in exchange for a commitment to community.

All generations have their golden days. For the baby boom's grandparents, the golden days came in the 1920s; for the baby boom's parents, the 1950s and early 1960s; and for the baby boom itself, they will come in the 1990s. Most baby boomers will be working, many will finally own their own homes and many will have children. The baby boom's best decade is supposed to be this one.

All generations also have their days of crisis. For the baby boom's grandparents, those days came with the Great Depression of the 1930s and World War II; for the baby boom's parents, they occurred in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Unfortunately, for the baby boomers, their golden days and days of crisis appear to be coming at the same time. The 1990s threaten to bring a health-care crisis for the baby boom's parents and, therefore, for their children. Continued crowding in the labor force threatens to bring a slowdown in promotions for the baby boom itself, forcing a re-evaluation of what it means to have a successful career. And the continued deterioration of the nation's infrastructure and environment threatens to bring a crisis for the baby boom's own offspring, which may someday raise the question of how well the baby boom performed as a steward, or protector, of the nation's resources.

Luckily, these are all solvable crises. The question is not whether the nation can provide affordable health care for the elderly, new job

opportunities for baby boomers in mid-career, or the renewal of rusting infrastructure and overcrowded national parks, as well as answers to the hazardous waste problem.

Rather, the question is whether the baby boomers have the patience to tackle these problems with the kind of energy and commitment that is necessary. If they expect quick results, they will be disappointed. Patience, diligence, commitment, self-sacrifice, endurance and forbearance are the values that the baby boomers must bring to the 1990s to ensure that those years become the golden days the generation deserves. If they press for instant returns, they will emerge from this century having wasted their potential to make their homes, communities and nation better places to live.

The answer depends in part on whether the baby boomers are willing to settle for something less than self-perfection, and whether they can find personal redemption in contributing to community. Are the baby boomers ready to let go of the Me Decade?

Philosopher Peter Marin was the first to caricature the baby boom's introspection as the "new narcissism." "A broad retrenchment is going on," he wrote in 1975, "a pervasive and perhaps unconscious shift in values—not only on a national level but in the moral definitions and judgments we make as individuals."

Marin was particularly critical of the human potential movement and its new psychological therapies that he said "provide their adherents with a way to avoid the demands of the world, to smother the tug of conscience. They allow them to remain who and what they are, to accept the structure of the world as it is—but with a new sense of justice and justification, with the assurance that it all accords with the cosmic law."

The rise of charismatic leaders like Werner Erhard, L. Ron Hubbard and Sun Myung Moon reflected what Marin called "the growing solipsism and desperation of a beleaguered class, the world view emerging among us centered solely on the self and with individual survival as its sole good... a retreat from the worlds of morality and history, an unembarrassed denial of human reciprocity and community... the desire to defend ourselves against the demands of conscience and the world through an ethic designed to defuse them both.... What disappears in this view of things is the ground of community, the felt sense of collective responsibility for the fate of each separate other. What

JIM HANSEN



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This chapter is adapted from his book, Baby Boomers, published by W.W. Norton & Co., New York. Copyright ©1988 by Paul Charles Light. Reprinted by permission.

takes its place is a moral vacuum in which others are trapped forever in a 'private' destiny, doomed to whatever befalls them. In that void the traditional measures of justice or good vanish completely. The self replaces community, relation, neighbor, chance or God. Looming larger every moment, it obliterates everything around it that might have offered it a way out of its pain." It was Tom Wolfe who captured this narcissism as the Me Decade.

Yet it is important to remember that the Me Decade began in the aftermath of Vietnam and with the rejection of traditional social and political labels. People became more aware of individual differences, more tolerant of others, more likely to seek help when they got into trouble. The Me Decade was not all negative. As Joseph Veroff, Elizabeth Douvan and Richard Kulka wrote in 1980, it is one thing to note the increasing social fragmentation and introspection, quite another to generalize from the tiny numbers in Erhard's self-awareness seminars to an entire generation. "Facts are observed correctly. The divorce rate has increased; women have left families in order to realize their individual talents or needs; the best-seller lists are dominated by books on self-improvement, personal growth, narcissistic preoccupation. But the facts are then interpreted too broadly, accorded a centrality and power in the broad population which they may in fact hold only for a part, for a highly articulate, 'leading,' powerful subgroup—but a subgroup all the same."

While there were baby boomers who were absorbed in self-indulgence and perfection, there were so many more who were merely seeking to break free of the old traditions. Some of the search for self-knowledge was and is destructive. Yet, some was healthy. Witness the baby boom's rejection of race and creed as a basis for judging an individual's value; witness its tolerance for those who do not fit traditional stereotypes. Surely no one wants to return to the social straitjackets of the 1950s?

It is also important to remember that the Me Decade was in part the result of the baby boom's search for meaning. The fact that the search was perverted in some cases does not mean it was always negative or that it cannot be redirected even now toward a new political and social community. What the narcissist critiques ignored, as psychologist Paul Wachtel wrote in 1981, "is that these movements did begin with a moral impulse, however much they may have subsequently strayed. In

the 1960s, concern with self-awareness and personal growth reflected a rejection of the materialism that was seen as the basis for a social system that oppressed its minorities and wrought havoc around the globe."

'The baby boomers will certainly need patience to handle their emerging problem with job plateaus. Because of their sheer numbers, there is less room at the top, indeed even in the middle.'

In the near term, the baby boomers face a series of problems which demand forbearance. Consider job plateaus, infrastructure renewal and care-giving to the elderly as three examples.

The baby boomers will certainly need patience to handle their emerging problem with job plateaus. Because of their sheer numbers, there is less room at the top, indeed even in the middle. More and more baby boomers will be trapped in dead-end jobs, or waiting ever longer for promotions. They will spend more time on each plateau up the promotion climb. They will need to redefine what it means to be successful, be more willing to wait in line for upward movement and learn to deal with the frustrations of being left behind. It is the most serious personnel issue facing U.S. business in the 1990s, according to Arch Patton, a former McKinsey and Co. management consultant. Baby boomers face "the virtual certainty that the promotion rate will fall dramatically. Executives are likely to stay on the job longer, because they cannot afford to retire; at the same time, the number of candidates for their jobs will expand at the highest rate ever."

The facts seem clear. During the past decade, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the number of people aged 35 to 44 has increased roughly twice as fast as available management jobs. According to Anthony Carnevale, chief economist of the American Society of Training and Development, the "leading edge of the baby boom has just

turned 40 and won't be retiring for another 30 years. Over that period of time, employers will face a curious demographic twist in their internal labor markets."

On the one hand, there will be fewer younger workers to fill the entry-level jobs. The baby bust, which is following the baby boom, will be able to demand a higher wage for the jobs they take, and many jobs will go wanting. On the other hand, there will be fewer mid-level jobs to accommodate the advancing baby boomers. As a result, there will be tremendous internal pressure for older workers to move out of the way. Putting the two trends together, the baby boomers will clearly be spending more time in the same jobs before advancing while facing competition at their heels from the baby busters.

Expectations may have to change within the baby boom. Given their higher levels of education, the baby boomers are more likely than other generations to demand self-development in their jobs. And that means new challenges and opportunities, not just money. For a generation accustomed to moving quickly, the plateaus will be difficult indeed. For those who thought their years in college would pay off with rapid upward mobility, this new employment reality will be a profound disappointment. "Unfortunately, the baby-boom group enjoyed

unusually rapid promotion rates during the 1970s and therefore entered [the 1980s] with very high expectations," Patton says. "Cooling the expectation level will require time and innovative modes by top management."

Unfortunately, the plateaus exist as far as the eye can see. There are only so many top jobs in America, and many will be occupied by those born just before the baby boom or those at the very front end of the generation itself. The baby boomers are going to have to redefine their timetables for success. "In America, the notion of success is heavily oriented toward a linear career path," says business professor Kenneth Brousseau. "The common belief is that the only good move is a move upward. If you stay where you are or if, God help you, you take a position at the lower level, you are quickly seen as a failure."

How will the baby boomers react to the plateaus? Brousseau warns of more stress, more burnout, more psychological withdrawal. One recent study suggests that plateaued workers tend to either withdraw from their jobs entirely or spend more time thinking about home or leisure. The resulting "on-the-job-retirement" is hardly the answer to the United States' competitiveness problem.

The plateaus are already creating a new language among personnel experts. They talk about downward mobility and ways of easing the pain of demotions. Indeed, according to organizational psychologists Douglas Hall and Lynn Isabella, there are at least seven ways a baby boomer can tell whether he or she is on the way down:

- 1) The downward promotion
- 2) The lateral demotion with a salary cut
- 3) The lateral demotion without a salary cut
- 4) The temporary step-down
- 5) The later-career move away from the front lines
- 6) The demotion as an alternative to being fired
- 7) The demotion for plain old incompetence

No matter how a corporation says it, a demotion is not a promotion. Nor is a termination. No matter how many ways a corporation does it, hundreds of thousands of baby boomers are going to be told they are washed up in coming years.

The baby boomers will also have to deal with America's rapidly deteriorating public infrastructure—the roads, bridges, rails, dams, underground storage tanks, sewers, water treatment plants and pipes that are the hidden underpinning of America's economy. Indeed, the decaying infrastructure may be the single greatest



threat to the baby boom's economic future. Having neglected the repairs in a two-decade binge of short-term cost savings—if the infrastructure ain't broke, why maintain it?—the bills are now coming due.

Infrastructure may be the duller topic on the national agenda, but it is important nonetheless. The baby boomers may not yet understand the term, but they will be spending plenty of time waiting for repairs in the coming years. And they already hit the potholes every day. Given the state of the nation's roads and highways, one thing is absolutely clear: the baby boomers will be wasting away their days in future traffic jams. "Rebuilding the nation's public infrastructure," said economist Pat Choate, "promises to be the single most expensive government challenge of the... 1990s."

The 42,500-mile interstate highway system, for example, stands as a remarkable public achievement, a testament to the optimism of the 1950s and early 1960s. By the early 1980s, according to Choate and Susan Walter, the highways were deteriorating at a rate of 2,000 miles per year. Yet, maintenance is easier said than funded. It is the easiest thing to cut in times of tight budgets. Just delay it another year—or at least until a chunk of bridge falls in Connecticut. The title of Choate and Walter's book may say it all: *America in Ruins*. By the early 1980s, as many as a third of the nation's 1.5 million underground storage tanks were leaking gasoline or chemicals, threatening many community wells and aquifers.

Unless the baby boomers are willing to tolerate closed bridges, detours, rough highways and unreliable water supplies, the infrastructure repairs must be made. It may not be as exciting as a mission to Mars perhaps, but it is part of the responsibility of their stewardship.

The infrastructure problem is analogous to a host of other environmental challenges. The national parks are in disrepair, new hazardous waste sites are leaking faster than the old sites can be cleaned up and nuclear waste continues to pile up, waiting designation of a national storage facility. None of these are one-time problems either. Once the parks are restored, they will need care—the baby boomers are visiting in record numbers. Once the hazardous waste is contained, it must be monitored. Once the nuclear waste is stored, it will stay hot for generations.

The baby boomers will have to be careful. Very careful. Take nuclear waste as an example. According to investigative reporters Donald Bartlett and

James Steele, "Nuclear waste will be stored for up to a century—if not forever—in some 200 cities and towns throughout the country. Chunks of real estate will be rendered permanently uninhabitable in some states and placed off limits for much of the 21st century in others. Tens of billions of dollars will be spent to correct mistakes of the past and present, a massive financial burden that future generations will have to bear."

The baby boomers may have no other choice but to accept the responsibility for these future problems. How this single generation manages its economic and social progress over the next decade will determine whether future generations inherit a land of spent resources or a renewed economic infrastructure. Whether in cleaning up the nation's waste dumps or protecting America's reservoir of natural resources, the baby boomers face a choice: either continue their search for short-term gratification or make a long-term commitment to preserving something for future generations.

'Consider the current care-giving network as one scenario of just what the baby boomers will be asked to do in coming years. According to the authors of the most comprehensive study to date, most of the nation's care-givers are female, with adult daughters providing almost one-third of the long-term care.'

The baby boomers will also need patience to cope with their care-giving responsibilities to the nation's dependent elderly. The good news is that America's elderly are more independent than ever, living longer, staying healthy for a larger proportion of their lives. With Social Security available as a source of income and



Medicare as a bulwark against illness, poverty has fallen dramatically among those over 65. And so has mortality. Indeed, gerontologists now talk of several different groups among the aged—the young-old, generally from 65 to 75 years old, who are vital and active, and the old-old, generally over 75, who are more likely to be disabled and in need of intense care.

The bad news is that the elderly still become disabled, with all that means for the decline in their quality of life. "People are undoubtedly living more healthy years," says Jacob Brody of the National Institute of Aging, "but the problem is they are living more unhealthy ones, too." And most of the care given during those unhealthy years comes from American families, not nursing homes or hospitals.

The baby boomers have not yet faced much of a care-giving burden for their parents and grandparents. Because their parents were so young when the baby boomers were born, many of their parents are just now entering retirement. Moreover, most projections suggest that they will stay healthy and energetic through their first 15 to 20 years of retirement, entering a time of increasing illness and vulnerability only toward the end of the second decade. By 85 years of age or so the elderly reach "a kind of turnaround point," says policy

analyst Elizabeth Kutza. "After that, the problems come faster: How healthy will I be? Who is going to be around to take care of me? How do I keep the income stream going?"

The facts on the increasing number of elderly dependents are clear. In 1900, one in 25 Americans was over age 65. By 1950, one in 12. By 1985, one in 9. Whereas there were 12 million elderly in 1950, there are now 28 million. People now survive the heart attacks, accidents, strokes and cancers that once would have killed them.

These new survival rates have a number of obvious impacts. First, children can expect their parents and grandparents to live longer. According to a population model developed by demographer Jane Menken, the number of women who could expect to reach age 50 with their mothers still alive jumped from 37 percent in 1940 to 65 percent in 1980. As Menken writes, "it is indeed new to human experience that a large majority of 50-year-olds would still have living mothers.... We can expect that a lot of them would still have mothers-in-law as well—or, given divorce rates, ex-mothers-in-law." The number of years a child could expect to spend with at least one parent over age 65 increased from 13 years in 1940 to 19 years in 1980.

Second, the survival rates also imply a changing menu of illness from acute disease to chronic infirmity, from life-threatening crisis to long-term impairment. As more elderly survive to their 80s, more will require care. As Elaine Brody of the Philadelphia Geriatric Center says, it is in this population of the old-old that one finds "most of the million and more who are so disabled that they require round-the-clock care in nursing homes, the 2 million who are equally disabled but who are not in institutions, and many of the 6 million more who require less intensive services."

Much of the care that will be given to the oldest-old in the next century will come from baby boomers. And it is likely to be hard work. Consider the current care-giving network as one scenario of just what the baby boomers will be asked to do in coming years. According to Robyn Stone, Gail Caf-ferata and Judith Sangl, authors of the most comprehensive study to date, most of the nation's care-givers are female, with adult daughters providing almost one-third of the long-term care. "Three-quarters of the care-givers live with the care recipient and the majority of the care-givers provide assistance seven days a week. They spend an average of four extra hours per day on care-giving activ-

ities." It is no small task.

For the daughters now providing care for elderly parents, one-quarter have competing family obligations. Although less than 10 percent have quit their jobs to provide these levels of care, the study concludes that "a sizable proportion of female and male care-givers have had to rearrange their schedules, reduce their work hours and/or take time off without pay to fulfill care-giver obligations." Further, a third of all care provided today is given by people already over 65 themselves, whether the "young-old" caring for an older spouse or parent, or the old-old caring for a husband or wife. Sooner or later, that burden will pass on to the baby boomers.

Because such care is almost entirely voluntary, it requires great compassion and commitment. Because it is so often given to those who are frustrated with their own incapacity, it requires great patience. Because it is so intensive, it creates great stress. According to gerontologist Pamela Doty, this stress may be particularly acute for adult children who are called upon to care for an aging parent. Compared to elderly spouses who are called upon to care for a disabled husband or wife—care-givers who "show a strong tendency to maintain care-giving whatever the social/emotional costs and stop only when deteriorations in their own health physically prevents them from providing the service"—adult children "appear to have a lower tolerance for stress, especially continued high stress over time."

Part of the lower tolerance for stress may reflect the fact that sons and daughters often have competing responsibilities both at home and at work. They are more likely to have children and spouses of their own to care for, and are more likely to be employed in either full- or part-time work. Finding an extra four hours a day is simply more difficult.

Part may also come from the rising baby-boom divorce rates. As the Rand Corporation's Peter Morrison suggests, divorce creates ambiguity about who is responsible for whom. "To what extent is a father responsible for both his natural children and his stepchildren? What if the stepfather of his natural children is far more prosperous? Should a stepdaughter be held responsible for the support of a needy stepmother? To cite a familiar example, laws requiring the children of Medicaid recipients to help pay for their parents' nursing home care have touched off intense debate over such 'family responsibility' laws: Which parents? What children? To what extent? And why?"

Finally, part of the lower tolerance for the stress

of care-giving may come from the baby boom's short-term focus. Having been able to easily separate from traditional roles in the past, some baby boomers may find it hard to commit to the kind of intense care-giving that their parents may someday need. Nevertheless, stressful or not, America relies on the family to provide long-term care for the elderly. The nursing care beds simply do not exist. Moreover, as the baby boomers themselves reach retirement, they will find that their care-giving responsibilities to husbands and wives, perhaps past and future, will also increase. With current longevity projections, it is entirely possible that the baby boomers will reach retirement with care-giving responsibilities to aging parents and to aging spouses.

'Today's and tomorrow's children promise to be the most heavily burdened generation in the nation's history. On their small numbers will depend the vitality of the economy, the defense of the nation, and the support of the elderly and children of that time.'

Perhaps some of the fortitude and patience baby boomers will need can come from a commitment to their children. By making a commitment to future generations, the baby boomers may be able to find the will and endurance to deal with their own problems.

There is little doubt that America's children could use the baby boom's help. There is no doubt that baby-boom divorce rates have made childhood a very uncertain experience. Whereas only 19 percent of the baby boomers born in 1950–54 saw their parents split up, as many as two-thirds of the children born in 1980–84 will see their parents divorce. "With more children being born to unmarried couples and to couples whose marriages subsequently dissolve," Morrison says, "children

increasingly live with only one parent (typically the mother)... Nontraditional (single-parent) families are becoming more common, and traditional families are not enduring as long as they once did. Proportionally more children than before will be spending some part of their childhood in a single-parent or blended family." That does not mean these children will be somehow maladjusted or unhappy. But it does suggest that they may be more in need of financial and emotional support.

In addition, whatever their needs for support, children have been on the budget chopping block for almost a decade. Writing in 1986, social policy experts Harold Richman and Matthew Stagner reported: "The percentage of children in poverty today is one-and-a-half times the percentage of all people in poverty. Our unemployment rate for youths 16 to 19 is nearly three times greater than the unemployment rate for adults over age 20. And while the adult suicide rate has declined, the suicide rate for children has risen dramatically over the last 25 years."

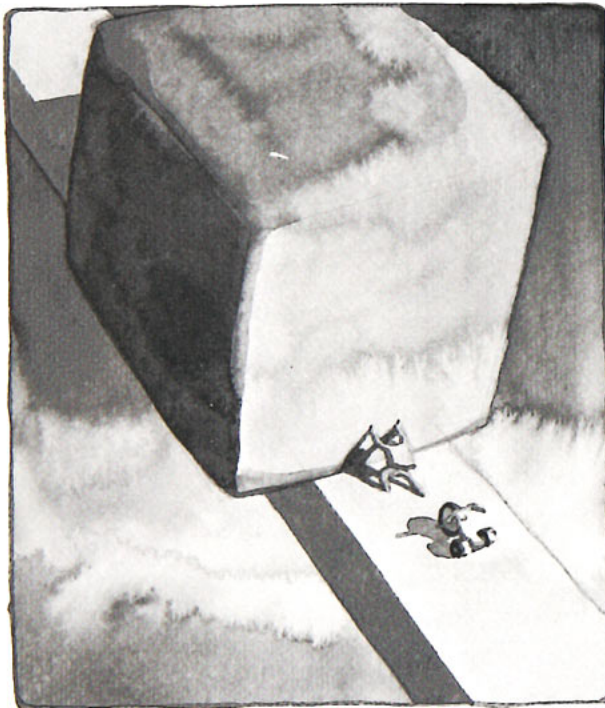
One reason children are so easy to ignore in the policy-making process is that they have no one to lobby on their behalf in Washington. Unfortunately, as politicians search for ways to trim budgets, children's programs are easy targets. According to

Madeleine Kimmich of the Urban Institute, recent cutbacks in children's programs have slashed both the quantity and quality of services. "Where do we go from here? Which promises to our children will we keep? The problems of income, education, employment and family functioning cannot be adequately handled piecemeal and through crisis intervention; many believe that there must be a national mandate, a service agenda to enlist the aid of both the public and the private sectors." Perhaps the baby boomers can take the lead, not only as parents of young children themselves, but as stewards of the future.

Ultimately, the baby boomers have ample cause to care about all the nation's young. If not out of love and compassion for their own children, perhaps out of long-term self-interest. According to former Carnegie Corporation president Alan Pifer, the most powerful case for investing in children "is that the nation will be enormously dependent on them as prime-aged workers when the baby-boom generation begins leaving the work force two or three decades from now. Because of the demographic twist of a period of exceptionally high fertility being followed by a sustained period of low fertility, today's and tomorrow's children promise to be the most heavily burdened generation in the nation's history. On their small numbers will depend the vitality of the economy, the defense of the nation, and the support of the elderly and children of that time."

Ironically, the baby-boom divorce rates may someday haunt the generation. "The majority of today's young children will, at some stage of their youth, become distanced from the economic support and care of one of their natural parents," says Morrison, thereby eroding the kinds of family connections Americans have long relied upon for caregiving. "Filial, parental, and grandparental responsibilities will become more complex and open to legal dispute as reconstituted families (containing stepchildren, half-siblings, and stepparents) become more prevalent."

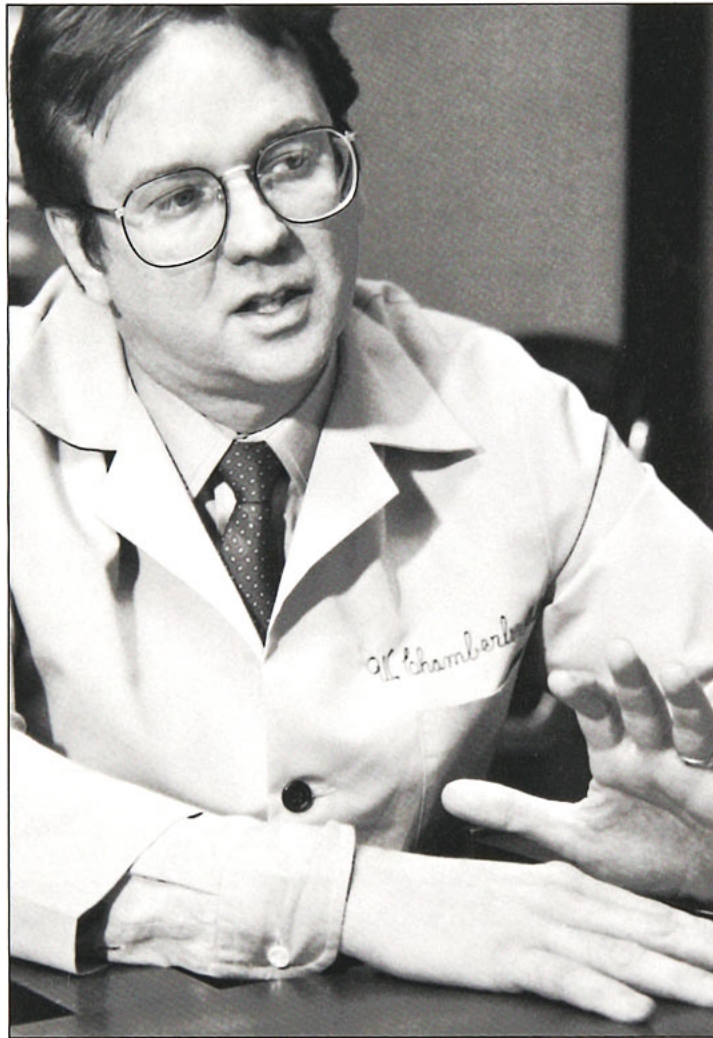
At the very least, however, perhaps the baby boomers can be interested in making the kinds of public investments today that will provide the wherewithal for future generations to help the baby boomers tomorrow. If the baby boomers cannot earn their children's compassion, perhaps they can earn their respect. Without their children's help, the baby boomers face a very rough retirement indeed. ■



Last Requests: The Right to Die

by Magda Krance

*As a physician,
William H. Chamberlin, Jr., '70
comes face to face with dying
patients and their families.
Sometimes, he believes,
a physician's obligation to help
a patient means allowing
a patient to die.*



STEVEN LEONARD

"...I will follow that method of treatment which, according to my ability and judgment, I consider for the benefit of my patients, and abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous. I will give no deadly medicine to anyone if asked, nor suggest any such counsel..."
—from the Hippocratic Oath

In an era of suicide machines and court battles over the right to die, those words are open to interpretations that the ancient Greek father of medicine couldn't have imagined. Dr. William H. Chamberlin, Jr., '70, chief of medicine at Michael Reese Medical Center in Chicago, is one of a growing number of physicians who find contradictions in the portion of the oath quoted above. They may not be willing to administer "deadly medicine" with the intent of ending patients' lives, as a controversial Michigan doctor did last June when he helped a woman suffering from Alzheimer's disease commit suicide. They do, however, believe in withholding treatment from patients who are terminally ill, comatose, or vegetative, when further treatment is at best futile and at worst cruel and harmful to the patients and their families alike.

As chief of his hospital's intensive care unit (ICU) since 1985 and as associate director of the unit for six years before that, Chamberlin has dealt with hundreds of terminal cases. He believes that the physician's primary responsibility is to help the patient, and sometimes that means helping the patient to die.

A patient in Chamberlin's care a few years ago illustrated the point poignantly. A man in his late 60s, he suffered from lung disease and was in and out of the hospital for six months. In the hospital, he was hooked up to a mechanical ventilator through a tube in his windpipe. Finally, on one of his stays at home, he went into the bathroom, locked the door, and slit his wrists. When his family discovered him, they called an ambulance. Waking up in the hospital, the man was outraged that he had been reconnected to the tube. He demanded to be allowed to die. The family said no.

Under Illinois law, Chamberlin said, there was no

question of the man's mental competence and that he had the right to refuse treatment. "But that doesn't recognize the interaction with the family," Chamberlin notes. "I happened to agree with him. I felt I understood how bad things were for him, and that he had a right to make that decision, but as a responsible physician I had to help his family understand that, too. So I told him I wouldn't [remove the tube] until I helped his family understand his wishes. He said, 'OK.'"

"I spent the next two days talking with the family. One of them said it was probably the only time in their entire lives that they had done something that Dad said they shouldn't do. Dad was a very dominant figure in the family. I helped them realize that it should be his decision.... He knew he had a limited life, and he had made a rational decision to not continue it."

The family finally agreed, and Chamberlin removed the tube. "We sent him out to the general floor, where the family stayed with him, and he died in his sleep two days later. I can't say it was any easier for the family, but at least they could recognize his decision and the right he had to make that decision, and the fact that he didn't make the decision in a callous or selfish way. He looked at the effect of his illness on his family, as well."

"That's something that we as clinicians don't always recognize—the effect that short-term survival has on people. A patient's personality changes, in the final few weeks, can be enormous. We may fight for days and weeks for somebody's life, and in the process can change the entire family structure, not necessarily for the better. Dominant men like this cannot deal with the dependence that their disease causes."

Chamberlin learned that lesson earlier in his life. After he graduated from Macalester with a degree in biology, he returned to suburban Chicago for a summer job before beginning his medical training at the University of Illinois Medical College. Then his father learned he had leukemia. He was 54. He died six weeks later, the day he began chemotherapy.

"The personality changes I mentioned before are changes I saw occur in my father," Chamberlin says. "Putting it in perspective later, I began to think about what we put families and patients through when we start therapy for terminally ill patients, to buy them some time. The notion that that is good time is one we ought to reconsider. As we get more remote from a patient's death, we're recognizing that those two or three or four weeks may actually have been more difficult on the family

Magda Krance '76, a Chicago-based writer, has written for People, Spy, Self, American Health, Time, the New York Times, Playboy and the Chicago Tribune. She is married to photographer Steven Leonard '74, who took Chamberlin's picture for this article.

and on the patient than is compassionate. Compassion will sometimes dictate that patients be permitted to die sooner rather than later."

Chamberlin believes strongly in a physician's responsibility to withdraw medical care in some cases of terminal illness, or of injury that leaves a patient in a persistent vegetative state. "We need to listen more to our patients, and deal with them in a humane way rather than in a technocratic way." Even though many can survive for a long time on ventilators, dialysis machines, and feeding tubes, "ultimately they're going to die, even with all the machines. We can get a physiological response, but we're not going to make a difference in outcome."

For that reason, Chamberlin says, "we're not obligated to resuscitate all patients if they're terminally ill or vegetative. The vegetative state is irreversible. They're not brain dead, but from the medical perspective, they don't have any potential to wake up. All they can do is function physiologically, but there's no evidence of higher cortical function, of human-like function."

He also believes in the patient's right to refuse therapy. "When they become incapacitated, they don't give up the right. In the case of someone like Nancy Cruzan, that right ought to be assigned to the physician and family," Chamberlin said. The parents of Cruzan, a Missouri woman who has been in a vegetative condition since a 1983 auto accident, sought permission to remove her feeding tube and let her die. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled 5-4 last June that the state of Missouri can sustain her life because her family has not shown "clear and convincing evidence" that she would have wanted the treatment stopped. However, eight members of the high court, venturing for the first time into the right-to-die issue, also said that a person whose wishes are clearly known has a constitutional right to the discontinuance of life-sustaining treatment.

"They [Cruzan's physician and parents] should have been able to stop care without resorting to the courts," Chamberlin says. "I frankly have never seen the courts make a better decision than could be made by the physician and family."

Some may find Chamberlin's stance radical, believing it is the physician's obligation to "do everything" to prolong life without passing judgment on the quality of life in question. "In fact, no physician does 'everything,'" he maintains, adding that holding physicians to that expectation is unreasonable. "What we do is everything that's realistic, given the circumstances and the patient's potential for survival. The history of medicine is a history of

saying enough is enough. Physicians have *always* had to make judgments about when they shouldn't continue to treat patients, determined by their lack of capacity to help [a patient survive]."

But what about those widely publicized cases of patients "waking up" from supposedly irreversible comas, sometimes after treatment was withdrawn with the expectation that the patient would die? Chamberlin concedes there are such extremely rare cases. "But for every story you can tell me about somebody who has awakened after 20 years of coma, I'll tell you a thousand stories of people who have not awakened, who won't awaken, and whose families' [emotional and financial] resources have been drained. To not permit people [to decide] to withdraw care because we *might* be wrong will punish many more people than it will help."

Chamberlin is trying to help lawmakers in Illinois come to grips with the issues of defining death and the right to die. He has testified on the state's proposed Uniform Death Act, which would codify death as the cessation of brain or heart function. Further professional and public education, he hopes, will result in broader acceptance of broader definitions of death. Increasing media coverage of right-to-die cases serves the cause well, Chamberlin says. He cites the 1989 case of Rudy Linares, which attracted national attention. Linares held the staff of another Chicago hospital at bay with a gun while he disconnected his comatose baby son's respirator. Chamberlin believes that the legal advice given to the medical professionals contributed to the situation; the hospital's lawyers thought the law wouldn't permit the doctors to stop treatment, and the distraught father took his son's fate into his own hands.

Chamberlin argues that the legal risk to physicians who withdraw treatment of terminally ill patients is greatly exaggerated. "We can't practice medicine looking over our shoulders, being paralyzed by an apparent legal risk, when in fact the risk is small. How small the risk may be was shown in the Linares case, when the grand jury [refused to indict him]. And Rudy Linares was at a much higher level of visibility than any physician would be in that kind of case. We have to have the freedom to exercise sound medical judgment without getting wrapped up in long drawn-out rules for termination."

Chamberlin says he and most physicians would not assist suicides, in the manner of the retired Michigan doctor, Jack Kevorkian, who invented a

STEVEN LEONARD



'How much do we spend on the final six months of life, and yet not make a difference? Here I am, an intensive-care doctor, but if I were to do one thing to improve health care in this country, I'd abolish intensive-care units.'

"suicide machine." (Kevorkian's homemade device allowed a woman with Alzheimer's disease to take her own life by pushing a button and injecting herself with the poison potassium chloride.)

"Termination of care means no longer interfering in the natural progression of a terminal disease," Chamberlin says. "Euthanasia is an active interference with the natural history of a disease. I'm not in favor of euthanasia, in that sense."

What guidelines does Chamberlin apply to withdrawing treatment from terminally ill or vegetative patients? "The first step is a careful analysis of the disease and the circumstances. The second step is

a recognition of the patient's desires, whether by the patient or by the family. The third step is a recognition of the family's desires." Chamberlin makes sure that the decision to withhold treatment is appropriate—that death is imminent if treatment is stopped.

As dedicated as Chamberlin is to his work, he questions the *raison d'être* of his medical specialty. "How much do we spend on the final six months of life, and yet not make a difference?" he ponders. "Here I am, an intensive-care doctor, but if I were to do one thing to improve health care in this country, I'd abolish intensive-care units. If I were assured that that money would be spent [on reducing] infant mortality and [educating] youngsters, then it would be better spent than 90 percent of what I spend in the intensive-care unit taking care of patients with little to no potential to survive.

"In some hospitals, the ICU consumes 20 percent of the hospital's budget for 1 percent of the patients. But intensive care doesn't cure diseases. Intensive care is support. There are certainly appropriate uses for intensive care, but frequently we use it for patients with advanced cancers, elderly patients with heart disease, and [other] patients who, when returned to a state of chronic ill health, will still be miserable."

Chamberlin says his medical ethics have been shaped by trying to help patients and families come to grips with death. Two events stand out: the death of his father and a case he dealt with in 1981, early in his career. He was caring for a Russian-Jewish immigrant who had recently escaped to the West.

"Both he and his wife were veterans of World War II. He had risen to the rank of colonel with the Russian army on the German front, and his wife had been a nurse in the troop stations behind the lines. They had lived through a lot and had seen enormous privations.

"He developed a problem that put him in the critical-care unit, and it soon became apparent that he wasn't going to come off the ventilator. He and his wife helped me understand as much about the right he had to come off the ventilator and to die as anybody, but they were also unwilling to push me as a clinician. They brought me along slowly. They said, 'Look, Doc, it's up to you, but you've got to understand that we don't think life is worth living like this.'

"Patients' experiences," says Chamberlin, "are one of the biggest teachers for physicians." ■

Montana to Macalester to Moscow

A businessman develops some capital ideas to bolster the college's commitment to internationalism.

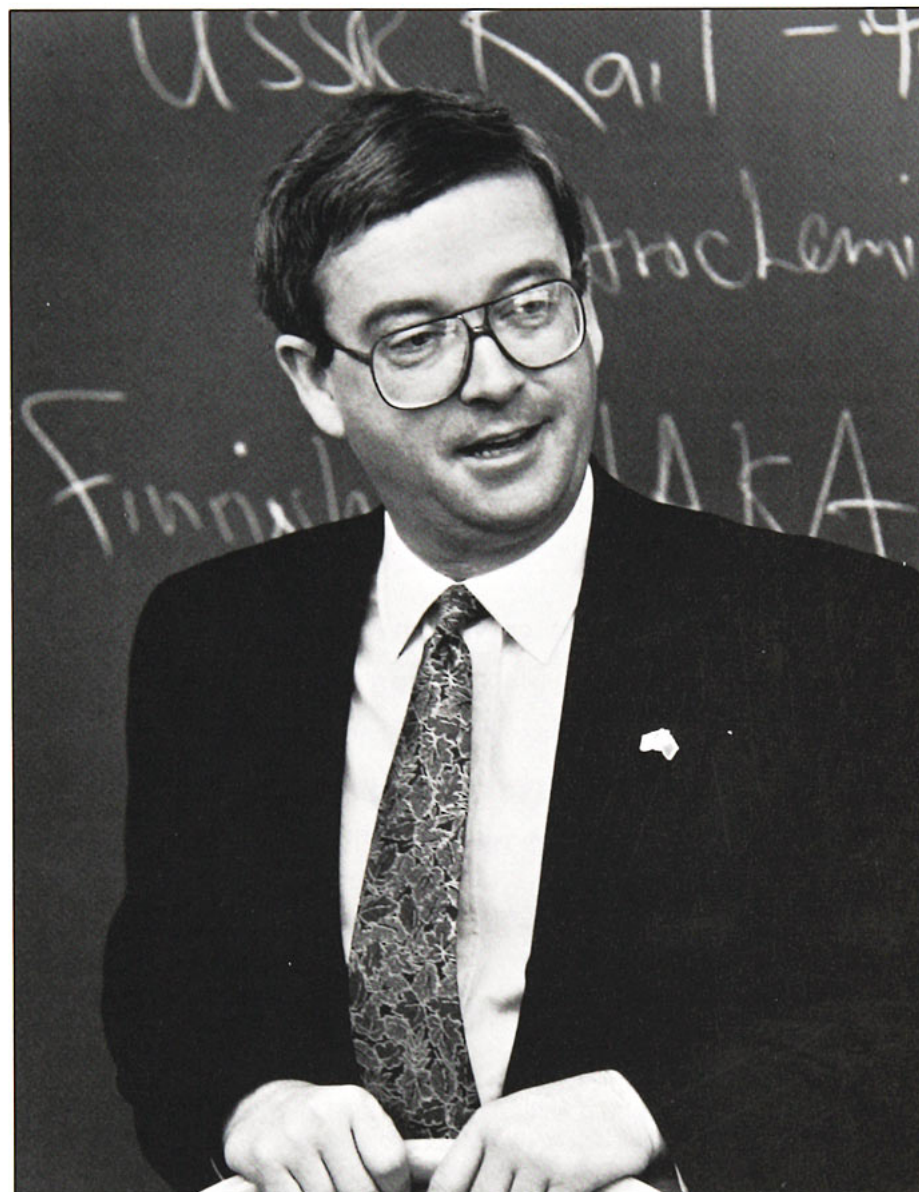
by Jon Halvorsen

Mark C. Hungerford is an unabashed capitalist, an outspoken businessman who cherishes the don't-fence-me-in individualism of his native Montana. Addressing Macalester students, he gave them his straightforward view of the upheavals in the Communist bloc and the end of the Cold War. "We won," he declared. "They lost."

Hungerford enjoys telling a story about a Soviet government official he met on a business trip to Moscow. The official's 19-year-old son had opened his own kind of business at Moscow's new McDonald's franchise. Since the lines at the "fast"-food restaurant were two to three hours long, the youth would wait in line, buy 10 or 20 hamburgers at a time, then go to the back of the line and sell them for three times what he paid for them.

"Now *that* is capitalism," Hungerford said with relish. "There is a 19-year-old who has already figured out what makes sense, what the *customer* wants."

Hungerford is chairman and chief executive officer of Transisco Industries of San Francisco, a company that maintains and manufactures railroad equipment. In 1989 he signed a joint venture agreement with the Soviet government and a Finnish company to revamp old Soviet tank cars and lease them to petroleum refineries in the Soviet Union. The deal made Transisco, which is being paid in hard currency, one of the first U.S. "perestroika companies." Last summer, Hungerford went to Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia to line up similar deals. In September, he joined 14 other U.S. business executives on a presidential mission to the Soviet Union to demonstrate President Bush's commitment to expanding U.S.-Soviet trade and economic cooperation.



JIM HANSEN

Businessman Mark Hungerford, whose company was one of the first "perestroika companies" to operate in the Soviet Union, speaks to Karl Egge's "Deals" class during Interim last January. Hungerford has hired at least a dozen Macalester graduates in the last 15 years.

"Human beings are not meant to be collectivized," Hungerford said. "... The Communists failed. The only place they haven't failed, unfortunately, is in the ranks of American college professors. They don't believe it yet but those [professors] have got to get off their butts

and get over there [to Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union].... The Czechs are very competent people on many fronts; the same is certainly true of Poland, Hungary, the Soviet Union. But when you've got a system where nobody owns anything, where no one can have

the pride of ownership or what the lawyers like to call 'the quiet enjoyment of assets,' it goes to hell in a hurry."

Hungerford, 46, grew up in Billings, Mont., where he went to high school with Karl Egge and Emily Rosenberg, both of whom became Macalester professors. Egge has brought Hungerford to campus to address his economics classes—most recently Egge's "Deals" class during Interim last January. "Mark is so different for Macalester," Egge says. "Ninety-eight percent of the Macalester students are liberal. Mark's a straight, old-fashioned conservative. But he's got a good heart."

Joanne Logan '90, who attended the "Deals" class, said students were "shocked" at first by Hungerford's blunt remarks, such as his declaration that "we won" the Cold War. "It's amazing for someone to come to Macalester and speak like that," she said. "But I had a lot of respect for him because he didn't play to his audience at all." She said she and other students also welcomed Hungerford's practical advice.

Although Hungerford is now a wealthy man, he says that "making a whole bunch of money for its own sake is sort of silly when you think about it. I mean, you come into this world with nothing and you're going to leave it with nothing." His philosophy is to "leave this planet a little better place than when you arrived."

Last year, he and his wife set up the Kathryn and Mark Hungerford Fund at Macalester, which will provide the college with \$30,000 a year for 11 years. The fund's purpose is to build on Macalester's strength in internationalism. The fund supports three programs, with roughly equal amounts of money devoted to each:

- 1) Scholarships, based on academic merit, for up to five students (and occasionally faculty) per year to study abroad. Students need not be economics majors but must have completed at least one course in economics and have expressed an interest in international business. The first four Hungerford Scholarships for International Study were announced last spring by the economics department and the International Center. The recipients are Garry Smith '92, who is studying economics, computer science and German during the current academic year at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland;

'The Communists failed. The only place they haven't failed, unfortunately, is in the ranks of American college professors. They don't believe it yet but those [professors] have got to get off their butts and get over there [to Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union].'

Cheryl Rose '92, who is spending the academic year studying economics and the Japanese language at Waseda University in Tokyo; Rebecca Johnson '91, who worked as an intern last summer for AT&T in Cairo; and James W. Cline '92, who is spending the fall semester studying Spanish, business, art and politics at the Institute for European Studies in Madrid.

- 2) Underwriting the cost of a faculty member in the economics department specializing in the field of international economics. Initially, the intent is to support a faculty member with an interest in Soviet and Eastern bloc scholarship. A portion of the money pays for the professor's travel. Gary Krueger, a visiting assistant professor, traveled to the Soviet Union last May and June and is teaching a course on the Soviet economy this fall. In future years, the program could support an international economist in another field—for example, Southeast Asia.

- 3) Operating an International Entrepreneurship Program. This will be centered around a new senior seminar class in the economics department which Egge will offer in the preliminary years. Funds will provide course-release time for this position and help pay for international travel by tenured members of the economics department.

"Americans have a tendency to feel so smug or self-confident about our own markets and what-not," Hungerford said by phone last summer from his vacation home on Montana's Flathead Lake. "It's reflected in lots of things. Our language

skills are lousy; our geography skills may be worse. I'm a nut on geography, probably because I'm a pilot. But I can't imagine doing business overseas if you don't understand how the world is all put together on a geopolitical basis as well as on a geological basis."

Hungerford attended the Air Force Academy before obtaining his B.S. in engineering and business from the University of Denver and an M.B.A. from UCLA. He is close friends with a cousin, Tom W. Clarke, who graduated from Macalester in 1963 and runs an insurance agency in Miles City, Mont. Hungerford chose to give to Macalester partly because he's hired at least a dozen Macalester graduates in the last 15 years. "I've been very pleased with the people who have come out of there."

Although he has traveled to 80 countries and believes Americans must develop a better understanding of the rest of the world, Hungerford says that at bottom, "I am a patriot and I am a nationalist. And I think most of the other people in the world are, too. The Germans are clearly nationalistic; they are feeling their muscles right now. The Japanese are definitely nationalistic; they do business for nationalistic reasons, frankly. I think Americans should, too. And yet I think everybody benefits if they are that way."

"But I believe in Adam Smith's theory of economics that individuals pushing economic self-interest are the driving force and that real competition, not national policies, will help Third World and Eastern bloc nations to rise. Taiwan and South Korea chose capitalism, and China and North Korea chose socialism. It is clear who won."

Hungerford hopes his program will "get a few students and professors excited about" Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. He doesn't care whether students use the program to go into business, teaching, the State Department or any other field. "This is a tremendous opportunity for us that will go down in history as one of those great watershed periods. But you've got to have people who will go out and do it. The British were able to control their empire because they were able to educate a fantastic number of people in the ways of the world. This is a small token, if you will, of trying to pull America into the 21st century." ■

Healthy, artful events highlight 'Leading Edge'

The "Leading Edge" series for Twin Cities alumni will continue in January with a major event—a multicultural performing arts festival at Macalester. Plans were still in the works as this issue of *Macalester Today* was going to press, but the month-long festival will include performances by Penumbra Theater Company, Mixed Blood Theater and At the Foot of the Mountain, plus a residency by the national tour of the Junebug Theater Project. The performances, lectures and discussions will focus on cultural diversity.

Two other events in the Leading Edge series were held this fall. The Marsh, a center for balance and fitness in Minnetonka founded by Ruth DeBeer Stricker '57, was the site of "Infinite Faculties: An Exploration of Health and Wellness" on Oct. 28. Stricker discussed her unique philosophy of wellness, which has received national attention. In addition, Kjell Bergh '70 and his wife, Maria, discussed their involvement with international health programs in Africa, the Caribbean and the United States. A natural and healthy gourmet buffet, prepared by The Marsh's head chef, rounded out the evening.

More than 80 alumni and friends attended "Magnetic Encounters: Writers and Readers" Sept. 18 at the Minnesota Center for Book Arts in Minneapolis. President Robert M. Gavin, Jr., introduced five writers with Macalester connections who were the center of attraction: Alvin Greenberg, chair of Macalester's English department (and whose new book is reviewed on page 7); Mary Ann Grossman '60, books editor of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*; R.D. Zimmerman '75, writer of thrillers and mysteries; Deborah Keenan '74, whose poetry has appeared in more than 50 literary magazines; and Robert Kerr '92, who twice has had his work chosen for production by the Young Playwrights Festival in New York City. Greenberg led a lively panel discussion in which the writers talked about who they write for and how the world at large has an impact on their work. The writers then split up to discuss their work with small groups of alumni.



The Minnesota Center for Book Arts in Minneapolis was the site of "Magnetic Encounters," an event for Twin Cities alumni. The evening featured such writers as English Professor Alvin Greenberg (left), poet Deborah Keenan '74 and mystery writer R.D. Zimmerman '75.

The "Leading Edge" series is planned by the Twin Cities Convening Group: Janet Bisbee '80, Mary Eichhorn-Hicks '71, Randall LaFoy '74, Carla Morris Lindsay '85, Rod MacKenzie '69, Karmen Nelson '77, Julie Stroud '81, Jordana Tatar '82, Leslie Wolfson '80 and Alumni Director Karen McConkey.

Recent Grads at work

Twin Cities "Recent Grads" (alumni from the past five classes) are planning a mid-winter faculty night. Details will be announced.

Recent Grads took part in a St. Paul area "Crop Walk for the Hungry" Oct. 7 with MACTION, a Macalester student group that promotes community service involvement. The group also held a barbecue Sept. 8 at the college's Katherine Ordway Natural History Study Area where Shelley Shreffler, assistant director and ecologist at the area, provided a tour and explained current faculty and student research projects.

The Recent Grad Planning Group includes Ruth Krider '90, Pam Lilley '89, Michael Vidmar '89, JoAnna Diebel '87, Anna Hagemeister '87, Eric Hesse '88, Shelly Collins Rucks '87, Mickey Scullard

'87, Bruce Smith '86 and Tracy Lessman '89.

Other Twin Cities alumni, new students and parents heard Mary Ackerman '70, dean of students, speak on the subject of Macalester student life Aug. 30 at the St. Paul home of Richard Shank '70 and Barbara Shank '70.

The first annual **M Club** Fund Drive resulted in \$8,706 donated by 211 members. The M Club also hosted a Fall Season Sports Social for players, coaches and parents Sept. 1 at the athletic field. The bright blue M Club banner was also the rallying point for informal football tailgate gatherings of alumni, parents and friends following the Scots on the road.

In addition to taking part in the "Leading Edge" series in the Twin Cities, Professor Greenberg spoke to **Cincinnati** alumni Sept. 13 and has other engagements lined up, including Nov. 28 with **Washington, D.C.** alumni and Dec. 6 in **Chicago** at the Chicago alumni club's annual get-together at the Newberry Library. The Chicago club plans another meeting Feb. 2 or 3 at the annual University of Chicago folkfest. By popular demand, Lisa D. Schrenk '84 again hosted a tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright

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Home and Studio on Oct. 6 in Oak Park.

At press time, alumni were planning to meet Oct. 25 in **Boston** with Charles Green, political science professor; Oct. 26 in **Paris** and Nov. 6 in **London**, both with President Gavin; Oct. 26 in **Denver**; Oct. 27 in **San Francisco** with Adah Packerman Bakalinsky '44, author of a book about guided neighborhood walks in that city; Nov. 8 in **Mankato**, Minn., with Peter Weisensel, history professor; Nov. 10 in **Los Angeles**; mid-November in **Philadelphia** with President Gavin, and Dec. 18 in **Denver** for a musical evening with Tom Morgan '84.

Reunion planning

If your class year ends in "1" or "6," watch your mail for more information from classmates planning special celebrations June 6-9, 1991, at **Reunion Weekend**. Highlights will include the 2nd Annual Mac Hac golf tournament, seminars led by faculty and alumni, an alumni choir, dances, picnics, children's programs and much more.

Reunion Weekend will also feature a mini-reunion for alumni veterans of World War II. And those alumni are invited to stay on for the Macalester Elderhostel June 10-14, an annual event in which all alumni are invited to take courses. The courses at this Elderhostel will center around World War II.

Candidates sought

The Nominations Committee of the Board of Directors of the Macalester Alumni Association is seeking candidates for nomination as alumni directors and alumni trustees for terms of office beginning June 1991.

Candidates should be willing and able to contribute to the college in terms of time, talent and money and have a strong desire to be part of the future of Macalester.

Send names and brief descriptions of qualifications to: Joni Kelly Bennett, Chair, Nominations Committee, Macalester Alumni Association, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105-1899.

The deadline for 1991 nominations is Feb. 1.

LETTERS continued from inside front cover

for us to lay down our ammunition and start doing something *together* that could really change the world.

Annie Kirschenmann-Heuser '78
Medina, N.D.

Macalester's traditions, and religion today

The article about religion at Macalester, "Keeping the Faith?" [February *Macalester Today*], was a refreshing and helpful presentation of the realities of religious life on campus today. More importantly, it described a religious diversity and openness that is a natural outgrowth of Macalester's historic commitment to intellectual curiosity and academic freedom that is rooted in its unique faith perspective.

As the article indicates, we live in a multi-cultural, multi-racial and multi-religious world. As the boundaries of time and space that have separated us in the past come closer together, it becomes increasingly important for us to learn how to live with, understand and respect one another. The future of the planet depends upon it. I can think of no better place than Macalester College with its strong tradition of internationalism to prepare young people for life and work in this kind of a world. What, for example, might a student learn in such an environment about the nature of Islam and the Arab world to prepare him or her to become an effective leader in helping the United States deal more sensitively and constructively with the continuing crises in the Middle East? (I am writing this in the midst of the U.S./Iraq confrontation over Kuwait.)

Those of us who are alumni should not be surprised by the rich religious diversity that has evolved on campus. If we are, we have not understood the symbolic importance of the flying of the United Nations flag on the campus flagpole since the 1950s. This flag has been a consistent and graphic reminder of Macalester's openness to the world. If that openness is to have any meaning, it must include a readiness to incorporate into the student body the polyglot of the world's religions, races and cultures and to take their presence seriously in the activities of campus life and the design of the curriculum.

I was a student at Macalester during the early '60s when chapel attendance went from being compulsory to voluntary. This seemed to me at the time to be as it should be. It still does. True religious faith, whether Christian, Buddhist or Muslim, cannot be compelled, especially for adults, which college students are. If religious faith does not stand on its own merit, college students will reject it anyway.

Today, I am a Christian by choice. It is a clear and important part of who I am. During my college days I did not participate in the religious groups on campus and was indifferent in my church attendance. Growing out of its Presbyterian roots, Macalester's "longstanding focus on internationalism and community service," however, had a profound impact upon my own religious development. It exposed me to a religious perspective that was open to the world and was secure enough that it did not need to be either dogmatic in its expression or closed to dialogue with people and faiths that were "different."

I saw in the article on religion at Macalester a continuing respect for religious values, an affirmation of the college's own religious roots, an honest openness to religious diversity and a commitment to the often difficult but rewarding process of interreligious learning and dialogue. To me this represents a Macalester education at its finest.

(The Rev.) David C. Bloom '65
Associate director
Church Council of Greater Seattle

Racism?

Concerning Earl W. Bowman's interview with the Minneapolis *Star Tribune* [Class Notes of August *Macalester Today*] wherein he states that one Macalester professor wouldn't pass him in two courses that were required for a teaching certificate. The quote ("The prof just said that he didn't think I would make a good teacher, but I later had reason to believe that he was a racist") is interesting.

If makes me wonder if he was recognized as Macalester's Athlete of the Half-Century because he was black. Both statements are nonsense.

Donald A. McCartin '47
Costa Mesa, Calif.



A Day of Service

Community service is a Macalester tradition, and students learn about it as soon as they enroll. The college's annual Community Service Day for first-year students took place Sept. 8 during Orientation Week. The purpose of the day, sponsored by MACTION and the Community Service Office, is to provide needed services to the community, expose students to service organizations and introduce community service as an integral part of their lives as a Macalester student.

About 280 students worked at 22 different community sites. They served meals to the homeless, did yard work for senior citizens, cleaned up a play area for children from a shelter for battered women. The students pictured here did carpentry work on a Minneapolis house for Habitat for Humanity, an international housing organization in which volunteers build and restore low-cost quality homes. From left: group leader Daniel Jasper '93, Omaha, Neb.; house owner Huston Lee; Seth Levine '94, Newton, Mass.; Steven Davis '94 (standing), Sterling, Mass.; Megan Cairns '94, West Chester, Pa., and Jeremy Kershaw '94 (on ladder), Omaha, Neb.

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